

## Opened Hands

Series: Break Through

February 7, 2016

### INTRODUCTION

We are currently in a sermon series called, "Break Through". In this series, we will be focusing on 4 areas of our lives where we could potentially experience some amazing spiritual breakthroughs in 2016. Today, we looked at the importance of stewardship, and what it means to live open-handed lives.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read Luke 5:1-3. What are some observations you see in these verses? Based on the message, why are these observations important?
2. Read Luke 5:4. What did Jesus ask Peter to do? What is significant about this request? Why would it have been difficult for Peter to do?
3. Read the first half of Luke 5:5a. What was Peter's initial response? Have you ever questioned God's Word, and specifically what He's asked us to do? Why is it that we often tend to push back on obeying and following through with God who has clearly stated in His Word?
4. In the second half of Luke 5:5b, Peter responds by saying, "but because You say so, I will let down my nets." What do you think was going through Peter's mind at this point? What's the significance of his response?
5. In Luke 5:6-7, we see the result of Peter's decision to do what Jesus asked. How would you have responded if something like this happened to you? What was Peter's response in verse 8?
6. What ended up happening as a result of Peter's encounter with Jesus along the lake? What did Peter end up letting go and giving up to follow Jesus? Would you have responded in the same way? Why or why not?

### CONCLUSION

Pastor Timothy Keller put it this way: *"If we knew exactly what God knows, then we would ask exactly for what He gives."*

Reflect on your life and think of all the ways God has already blessed you. What are some of the things that He may be asking you to let go and give up in order to follow Him, and what are some ways we can live open-handed lives?

***SALVATION IS FREE, IT COSTS ME NOTHING.  
FOLLOWING JESUS WILL COST ME SOMETHING.***

*"Sometimes I would like to ask God why he allows poverty, suffering and injustice when He could do something about it. But, I'm afraid He would ask me the same question." – Brandon Hatmaker*